

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10
OIC-02 OES-07 HEW-06 SS-15 SP-02 L-03 H-02 NSC-05
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15
PRS-01 AID-05 IGA-02 DHA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 MED-03
/145 W

-----141350Z 002089 /41

R 141244Z MAY 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7371

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 GENEVA 3753

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: WHO, PFOR

SUBJ: SECOND WEEK OF WHA SESSION (MAY 2-20)

REF: GENEVA 3499 (NOTAL)

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: PRESIDENT CARTER'S MESSAGE TO WHA WAS READ AND CIRCULATED TO DELEGATES AND HIS SPECIAL ASSISTANT ON HEALTH SPOKE PRIVATELY WITH MANY OF THEM. VIET NAM'S ASSESSMENT WAS ESTABLISHED IN CONFORMITY WITH UN SCALE. GREEK/TURKISH MINI-CONFRONTATION OVER CYPRUS ISSUE OCCURRED. US WAS ELECTED TO EXECUTIVE BOARD. OUR STATEMENT ON NAMIBIA'S ASSESSMENT GENERATED NO SUPPORT. JOINT INSPECTION UNIT STATUTE WAS ADOPTED. UK/US/FRENCH LETTER WAS CIRCULATED IN RESPONSE TO SOVIET/GDR/MONGOLIA LETTERS CRITICAL OF COMPOSITION OF FRG DELEGATION. 12 MEMBERS JOINED US IN ABSTAINING ON BUDGET LEVEL, BUT ITALY WAS ONLY OTHER MEMBER OF GENEVA GROUP TO DO SO. MIDDLE EAST ISSUE STIRRED TO LIFE, AND ON MAY 14 ARAB DRAFT RESOLUTION WAS FORMALLY CIRCULATED BY SECRETARIAT. END SUMMARY.

2. RESIDENT'S VISIT TO GENEVA. ON OCCASION OF HIS VISIT HERE, PRES CARTER SENT MESSAGE TO PRES OF WHA WHICH WAS FORMALLY READ TO PLENARY ON MAY 10 AND THEN UNCLASSIFIED

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DISTRIBUTED AS WHO PRESS RELEASE. MESSAGE, STRONGLY SUPPORTIVE OF WHO AND REAFFIRMING US COMMITMENT TO INTERNATIONAL HEALTH EFFORT, WAS EXTREMELY WELL RECEIVED. PRESIDENTIAL SPECIAL ASSISTANT DR PETER BOURNE HAD PRIVATE MEETINGS WITH NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS ON MAY 9 AND 10 AND ATTENDED SOCIAL FUNCTIONS WHERE HE MET WITH STILL OTHERS. DELEGATES SHOWED STRONG INTEREST IN LEARN-

ING ABOUT INTERNATIONAL HEALTH VIEWS OF NEW ADMINISTRATION.

3. VIET NAM ASSESSMENT. WHEN THIS ISSUE REAPPEARED BEFORE COMMITTEE B ON MAY 9 (SEE REFTEL, CANADA LED OFF WITH CAREFULLY WORDED PROPOSAL TO AMEND DRAFT RES BEFORE COMMITTEE SO AS TO BRING VIET NAM'S ASSESSMENT INTO LINE WITH RECOMMENDATION TO BE MADE TO UNGA BY UN COMMITTEE ON CONTRIBUTIONS (.03 PERCENT). UK, ITALY, FRG AND US MADE STATEMENTS SUPPORTING CANADA. THERE WAS NO FURTHER DISCUSSION, AND CANADIAN PROPOSAL WAS ADOPTED 27 (US)-19-38.

4. CYPRUS. DEPARTING FROM LANGUAGE USED IN LAST YEAR'S RESOLUTION, SECRETARIAT'S DRAFT RESOLUTION ON AID TO CYPRUS OMITTED A PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPH CITING, IN GENERAL, UNGA AND SC RESOLUTIONS ON CYPRRUS. GREECE AND CYPRUS MOUNTED DETERMINED CAMPAIGN, CHIEFLY AMONG G-77, TO GET PARAGRAPH BACK IN. TURKEY OPPOSED AND ASKED FOR ROLL CALL VOTE. TURKEY LOST BY VOTE OF 9-32-55 (US AND EC-9 EXCEPT FRANCE).

5. EXECUTIVE BOARD. MOROCCO AND MALTA MADE PERSISTENT EFFORT TO GET ELECTED DESPITE HAVING LOST OUT TO PORTUGAL, AS CHOICE OF EUROPEAN REGION. THEY THEN WITHDREW THEIR CANDIDACY IN PLENARY ELECTION. (THIS MAY STRENGTHEN THEIR CLAIM TO BE EUROPEAN REGIONAL CHOICE NEXT YEAR). AS RESULT, IALL TEN NEW MEMBERS OF 30-MEMBER EXECUTIVE BOARD WERE OFFICIAL CHOICES OF THEIR REGIONS: US, BOLI-UNCLASSIFIED

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VIA, CUBA, BOTSWANA, INDIA, LIBYA, TUNISIA, ANGOLA, GDR, PORTUGAL.

6. NAMIBIA. IN KNOWLEDGE THAT THERE WOULD BE NO SUPPORT FROM OTHER GENEVA GROUP MEMBERS, USDEL MADE LOW KEY STATEMENT POINTING OUT THAT TO GRANT NAMIBIA EXEMPTION FROM ASSESSMENTS AFTER 1978 WAS UNFORTUNATE PRECEDENT. HE INVITED COMMENTS. SENEGAL AND SRI LANKA ASKED WHAT ALTERNATIVE THERE WAS. USDEL SAID ALTERNATIVE WAS CONTINUED PAYMENT OF ASSESSMENT BY UN COUNCIL ON NAMIBIA. THERE WAS NO FURTHER COMMENT, AND RESOLUTION AGREEING TO EXEMPTION PASSED WITHOUT VOTE.

7. JOINT INSPECTION UNIT. COMMITTEE B LISTENED TO DETAILED EXPLANATION BY EXECUTIVE BOARD REPRESENTATIVE (REID, UK) OF WHY WHO SHOULD ADOPT JIU STATUTE. RESOLUTION TO THIS EFFECT WAS ADOPTED WITHOUT VOTE AND WITHOUT DISSENTING VOICE.

8. BERLIN. ON MAY 5 SOVIET AND GDR DELS ADDRESSED LETTERS, SUBSEQUENTLY CIRCULATED AS CONFERENCE DOCUMENTS, CHALLENGING PRESENCE OF WEST BERLIN OFFICIAL FROM FEDERAL HEALTH OFFICE (PROF ROTTKA) ON FRG DELEGATION AND CITING QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT. MONGOLIA FOLLOWED UP WITH SUPPORTING LETTER FEW DAYS LATER. ON MAY 12 US, UK AND FRENCH CHIEFS OF DELEGATION RESPONDED WITH JOINT LETTER TO WHA PRESIDENT REFUTING SOVIET AND GDR STATEMENTS. FRG DEL FOLLOWED UP SAME DAY WITH LETTER SHARING US/UK/FRENCH POSITION AND REGRETTING "POLITICALLY MOTIVATED" SOVIET LETTER.

9. BUDGET LEVEL. IN ACCORDANCE WITH WHO RULES, COMMITTEE B SUSPENDED ACTIVITIES WHILE THIS ISSUE WAS DISCUSSED AND DECIDED IN COMMITTEE A ON MAY 13. EXECUTIVE BOARD REPRESENTATIVE (VALLADEREZ, VENEZUELA) INTRODUCED ITEM AND EXPLAINED BOARD'S REASONS FOR APPROVING 12.1 PERCENT UNCLASSIFIED

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INCREASE FOR 1978. DG MAHLER SPOKE BRIEFLY, POINTING OUT WHY 12.1 PERCENT INCREASE WAS BOTH EXCEPTIONAL AND DEFENSIBLE. HE EMPHASIZED THAT WHO BUDGET IS DROP IN BUCKET COMPARED TO WORLD HEALTH NEEDS AND THAT ONE OF ITS CHIEF TASKS MUST BE TO GENERATE "INFINITELY GREATER" HELP FROM EXTRABUDGETARY SOURCES. COMMENTS BY DELEGATIONS TOOK UP MOST OF DAY. A NUMBER OF DELEGATES SEEMED CONFUSED OVER WHAT THEY VIEWED AS DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN WHO BUDGETARY INCREASE AND THE SOMETIMES MUCH LARGER INCREASES IN THEIR ASSESSMENTS (DUE TO SHIFTS IN UN SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS, WHICH WHO FOLLOWS WITH ONE YEAR LAG). VOTE WAS 90-0-13(US) REPRESENTING ONE OF RARE INSTANCES WHERE WHO BUDGET ADOPTED WITHOUT DISSENTING VOTE.

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-----141350Z 002131 /41

R 141244Z MAY 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7372

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 GENEVA 3753

10. GENEVA GROUP POSITIONS. ITALY, ONLY OTHER MEMBER OF GG TO ABSTAIN, SPOKE AGAINST END OF SERVICE GRANTS (AS USDEL HAD DONE ON PREVIOUS DAY), AND URGED THAT 1980/81 BE PERIOD OF BUDGETARY CONSOLIDATION. UK SAID IT HAD NO VIEWS ON 80/81 BUDGET PROJECTIONS, BUT PROJECTIONS NEEDED FURTHER STUDY. IFRG SPOKE AGAINST END OF SERVICE GRANTS; URGED 3 OR 4 PERCENT REDUCTION IN 1978 BUDGET CITING INFLATED PROJECTIONS OF COST INCREASES; ASKED DG TO TAKE FURTHER GUIDANCE FROM GOVERNING BODIES ON 80/81 PROJECTIONS, COMMENTING THAT WHILE SHO'S "REAL RESOURCES" SHOULD BE PROTECTED, BUDGET INCREASES SHOULD BE MINIMIZED. FRGDEL ALSO EXPRESSED HOPE OF HAVING FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ON SUBJECT. FRANCE SAID IT SUPPORTED 1978 BUDGET BECAUSE IT CARED ABOUT LDCS; DECLINED TO TALK ABOUT 80/81 PROJECTIONS, SAYING THIS WAS SO FAR IN FUTURE AS TO BE IN REALM OF "SCIENCE FICTION". INDICATED THAT ONLY REASON FRANCE MIGHT OPPOSE BUDGET NEXT YEAR WOULD BE ANY ECONOMY MOVE BY WHO THAT UNDERCUT USE OF FRENCH IN ORGANIZATION. SWEDEN STRONGLY SUPPORTED BUDGET, CALLING PROGRAM INCREASE OF 3 PERCENT A BARE MINIMUM AND 80/81 PROJECTIONS "TOO CAUTIOUS". JAPAN COMMENTED THAT BUDGETARY GROWTH IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS SHOULD BE "REASONABLE" AND URGED DG TO KEEP ECONOMY IN MIND IN UNCLASSIFIED

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DRAWING UP 80/81 BUDGET. CANADA COMMENTED THAT \$5 MILLION IN UNALLOCATED FUNDS FOR DG'S AND REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS DID NOT CONFORM TO SOUND MANAGEMENT PRACTICE AND THESE PROGRAMS SHOULD QUICKLY RETURN TO EARLIER RELATIVELY LOW LEVELS. 80/81 PROJECTIONS SHOULD BE FURTHER EXAMINED BY EXECUTIVE BOARD AND ITS PROGRAM COMMITTEE. AUSTRALIA SAID 80/81 PROJECTIONS SHOULD BE EXAMINED FURTHER BY PROGRAM COMMITTEE BUT SAID IT COULD ACCEPT "CONTROLLED REAL PROGRAM GROWTH" IN THAT PERIOD. NETHERLANDS SAID IT COULD ACCEPT CONTROLLED BUDGETARY GROWTH, ALTHOUGH EXECUTIVE BOARD HAD IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY. IT REJECTED "ARBITRARILY ESTABLISHED BUDGETARY TARGETS". IN HIS COMMENTS AFTER THE VOTE, DG MAHLER RESPONDED TO CANADIAN STATEMENT THAT \$5 MILLION BUDGETED FOR DEVELOPMENT FUNDS WAS "POOR MANAGEMENT" PRACTICE. HE SAID THAT, ON CONTRARY, TO HAVE HASTILY STUFFED THESE SAVINGS INTO THE BUDGET UNDER VARIOUS PROGRAMS,

INSTEAD OF INSISTING THAT THEY BE RECYCLED THROUGH
REGULAR PROGRAM/BUDGET PROCESS (FOR WHICH THERE WAS IN-
SUFFICIENT TIME) WOULD HVE CONSTITUTED POOR MANAGMENT.

11. LDC REACTION. NONE OF THE NUMEROUS LDC STATEMENTS
MADE DIRECT REFERENCE TO US POSITION. HOWEVER, NIGERIA
COMMENTED THAT IT WAS IRONIC THAT TO GET THIS "TOKEN
INCREASE" POOR MEMBERS WERE JOINING HANDS WITH SOME
PROGRESSIVE COUNTRIES. GHANA CALLED 12 PERCENT INCREASE
"NECESSARY SACRIFICE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND HUMAN
RIGHTS". NIGER EMPHASIZED SMALLNESS OF BUDGETARY
INCREASE AND STEADY INROADS BEING MADE ON EVERYBODY'S
BUDGETS BY INFLATION ("FOR WHICH MY REGION IS NOT
RESPONSIBLE"). HE COMMENTED, TOO, THAT WHO'S REGULAR
BUDGET IS LESS THAN ANNUAL COST OF A SINGLE LARGE
HOSPITAL. OTHERS SUGGESTED THAT THOSE NOT SUPPORTING
BUDGET FAILED TO RECOGNIZE HEALTH NEEDS IN LDCS,
AND REQUIREMENT TO MAINTAIN CORE SUPPORT OF WHO.
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Message Attributes

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TAGS: PFOR, WHO, (CARTER, JIMMY)
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